

THE OAK LEAF

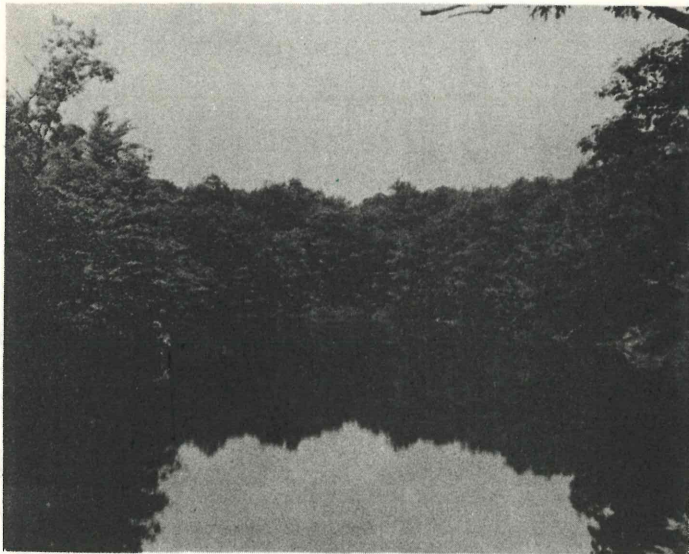
CONNECTICUT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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Godfrey Pond, Devil's Den Preserve

DEVIL'S DEN: THE SITE FOR OUR CONNECTICUT CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING IN OCTOBER

The Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy has been set for Saturday, October 18th, 1969 at 10:30 AM in Weston. In addition to a most interesting speaker, the program will include reports on activities which have occurred in and about Devil's Den - the Conservancy's largest preserve in Connecticut.

Save this date and join us at Devil's Den. You will find enclosed with this Newsletter official announcement of the Annual Meeting with the program and directions described.

TIDAL WETLANDS PRESERVATION ACT - EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1969

Public Act 695 provides that all "regulated activity" (dredging and filling of mudflats, salt water marshes and in deep water) is prohibited after October 1, 1969 unless a permit is issued after a public hearing has been held. Before such a permit can be granted by the Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources, there must be a finding that dredging and filling would not be adverse to the public interest.

P.A. 695 has one very important feature. The bill provides that "any person" may obtain an injunction from the Superior Court to bring a halt to prohibited activities.

Thus each person can supervise, in effect, his own estuary or section of coastline. Any person can take legal action directly to Court to stop dredging and filling unless a permit has been obtained. In many cases advising the owner of the marshland being disturbed that his activity requires a permit may well be sufficient to bring an immediate stop.

The Conservancy believes much more protection is desirable, but is pleased at this step in the right direction. Let us all aid in the enforcement of P.A. 695.

CONNECTICUT BAR ASSOCIATION OPENS MEETING ON WATER POLLUTION

On Monday, October 20th, the Conservation Committee of the Connecticut Bar Association will sponsor a seminar on Water Pollution. A panel of experts will discuss water pollution, the efforts and the accomplishments being made to lessen this problem.

The session will be during the two-day Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Bar Association being held in New Haven at the Park Plaza Hotel. The Water Pollution Panel will be from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM. The Bar is opening this session to the public without charge.

Anyone interested in further information might contact Russell Brenneman, Esq., 302 State Street, New London - Chairman of the Conservation Committee - or Richard M. Bowers, Esq., 20 Holmes Street, Mystic, who is making arrangements for this seminar.

DDT IN CONNECTICUT

Enclosed with this Oak Leaf is a copy of a special report done by the Connecticut Conservation Reporter on DDT. Robert F. Kunz, Executive Vice President of Connecticut Conservation Association, reports continued efforts are being made by that organization. He states "CCA is going to pursue this matter until we have obtained a ban on DDT in Connecticut and until appropriate and ecologically sound controls are placed on the other persistent chlorinated hydro-carbon pesticides."

Such regulation of DDT continues to grow. In addition to the activities of various states mentioned in this Report, Arizona has placed a one year moratorium on DDT. Also Sweden now has a total ban for two years on sale and use of DDT. Netherlands has also acted.

TEEN-AGE CONSERVATION LEADERS HONORED BY THE CONSERVANCY

Our Connecticut Chapter has awarded two teen-age boys a year's membership in The Nature Conservancy in recognition of their activities on behalf of conservation.

The boys are John Glowa, 15, of Shelton and Mark R. Helming, 17, of Bristol. John, a high school junior, recently became one of the seven members of his town's new Conservation Commission. He impressed the mayor and other Shelton officials with the zeal with which he worked to save a handsome woodland near his home that was threatened with destruction.

Mark, a high school senior, started the Bristol Junior Conservationists just two years ago. This group of youngsters recently gathered 600 of the 1100 signatures on a petition aimed at helping the acquisition of New Britain watershed property as a nature preserve. The Bristol Board of Water Commissioners has granted Mark's club permission to plan and establish nature trails at Reservoir Seven.

In making these awards, our Chapter Chairman, Charles Clark, commented that these boys "exemplify the best citizen efforts. We are delighted to see young people concerned about our natural areas, and expending efforts to help in their preservation."

RIVER RAMBLE

The 10th Annual River Ramble will again be sailing from the Municipal Dock at Middletown on Saturday, October 4th. The theme this year: "The Connecticut - Gateway to the Future." Tickets \$10 per person may be obtained by writing to River Ramble, Box 72, Georgetown, Connecticut 06829.

KITCHEL WILDERNESS WISDOM

Tread these trails lightly, I beg you
Take time for a glance at the blue
Sky above ---- or below, a small fern
wet with dew!

Speak softly, a deer may be listening,
Or yonder a porcupine bristling
Watch sun on a spider web glistening-
take time to be you!

A thrush in the shadows is calling
Forest music so deeply enthralling
And a brook o'er its rocks gently falling
sings softly to you.

The mosses are here in profusion
Rare flowers which may cause some confusion
But here in the dim light's diffusion
nature is waiting for you.

In the woods its not mileage per day
But what you have seen on the way
And the memories shared as you stray
which reward you!

Walk slowly, speak softly, and listen
and drink deeply of wilderness peace.

Helen Binney Kitchel
September 13, 1969

(This poem was written
for a group of Appalachian
Mountain Club hikers who
came to enjoy the delights
of Tim's Point of View and
Happy's Pines as well as the
Explorer, Endurance and K
Trails of the Kitchel Wilder-
ness Preserve.

This Editor suggests
that the Kitchel Wilderness
Preserve might well be a
candidate for inclusion in
Connecticut's System of
Natural Area Preserves.)

GLASTONBURY SUB-CHAPTER REPORTS

New officers elected for the
Sub-Chapter are:

Chairman: C. Ross Powell, Jr.
Vice
Chairman: H. William Reed
Secretary: Mrs. Clyde S. Brooks
Treasurer: John M. Finney

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The Sub-Chapter is delighted
to announce that the speaker for
their next meeting will be our Con-
servancy National President, Thomas
Richards. He will describe and
show some of the more challenging
efforts undertaken on the National
scene in the past several months.

All Chapter members and in-
terested friends are invited to
attend. The meeting will be on
October 8, 1969 at 7:30 PM at the
Welles Turner Library, Main Street,
Glastonbury.

OAK LEAF AWARD

Our Chapter Chairman,
Charles A. Clark, of Old
Greenwich, has been awar-
ded the Conservancy Oak
Leaf Award in apprecia-
tion of his efforts for
conservation. This award
was announced at the Na-
tional Conference of The
Nature Conservancy held in
Seattle in August.

Congratulations,
Charlie!

COTTRELL MARSH FUND DRIVE CONTINUES

The Cottrell Marsh has been beautiful this Summer. The young wildlife who have spent their early weeks of life maturing in this undisturbed expanse of marsh are now readying themselves in the manner of their species for the Winter ahead.

It took a commitment of \$60,000 by The Nature Conservancy almost a year ago to preserve this marsh so that the osprey, the deer, the hermit crab, the many species of bird, animal and fish could year after year have a salt marsh environment in which to grow.

There have been many concerned people who have helped us preserve this marsh. The debt of \$60,000 has been reduced now to \$6,000. But other Natural Areas (to be) are desperately in need of preservation also. Let's all try a little more and pay off this remaining debt so that these conservation dollars may be at work again preserving other valuable areas. (I'm sure each one of us can think of such an area in need!)

Contributors since the last Oak Leaf to the Cottrell Marsh Project are:

Dr. & Mrs. W. Robert Adams
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Mr. John M. Anderson
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Miss Dorothy F. Bidwell
Mr. Richard M. Bissell, Jr.
Helen R. Braem
Mrs. Charles Butler
Mrs. Thomas H. Chappell
Mr. Bradford E. Clark
Mr. George A. Clark, Jr.
Mrs. Hugh L. M. Cole
Mr. Richard Constable
Mr. Peter B. Cooper
Mrs. S. Frederick Cushman
Mr. Arthur Bliss Dayton
Elizabeth B. Dayton
Miss Alice A. DeLamar
Mr. Wilbur G. Downs
Mrs. Frederic W. Ecker
Mr. Herbert P. Eichler
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Mrs. A. Tewksbury Heard
Dr. & Mrs. George W. Hebard
Mr. Sidney Hessel
Mrs. Alice Norcross Hill
Mrs. Harry H. Howard
Mrs. Richard W. Hyde
Mrs. Walter W. Igersheimer
Mrs. D. S. Ingraham
Miss Alice B. Jansen
Dr. & Mrs. Everett Jones
Mr. Walter H. Kilham, Jr.
Mrs. P. L. Kynaston
Mrs. John Glessner Lee
Litchfield Hills Audubon Society
Mrs. George Loveless
Janett Lukens
Mrs. Kenneth Lydecker
Miss Katherine Matthies
Mr. Bruce Manterpach
Mrs. M. D. MacGregor
Mr. John Mayer

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The Meek Foundation
Rev. Paul N. L. Munson, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Norton
Mrs. Ruby M. Orcutt
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Mrs. P. E. Plehn
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The Editor invites any comments concerning, or articles for, the Chapter Newsletter.